Ecuador

December 2025

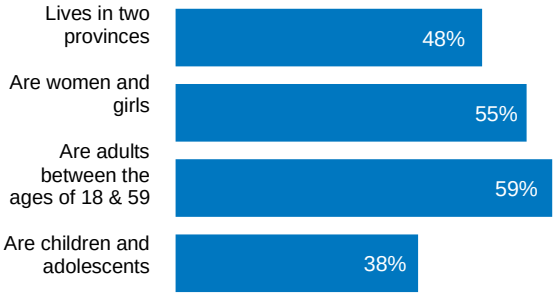
Over 80,800 **refugees** and 9,175 asylum-seekers are currently registered in Ecuador** as of end of December. 94% of refugees are from **Colombia**.

Ecuador hosts 440,450 Venezuelan refugees and migrants, **the fifth largest number** after Colombia, Peru, Brazil and Chile (GTRM).

UNHCR works with authorities and partners to help refugees, asylum-seekers and their hosts **build resilient communities in Ecuador**.

POPULATION OF CONCERN*

Profile

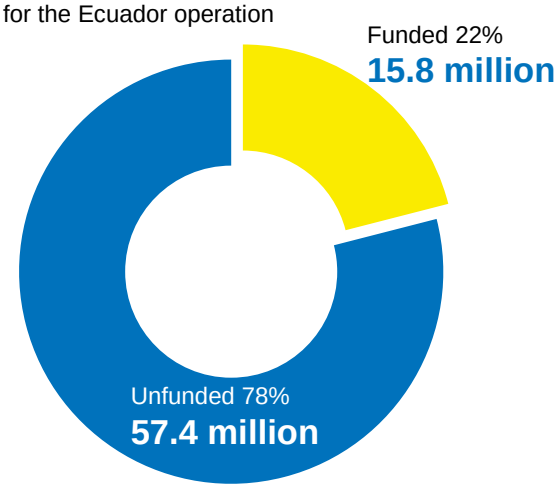


Source: UNHCR Ecuador National Trends
**Source: Government of Ecuador by end of May 2025*

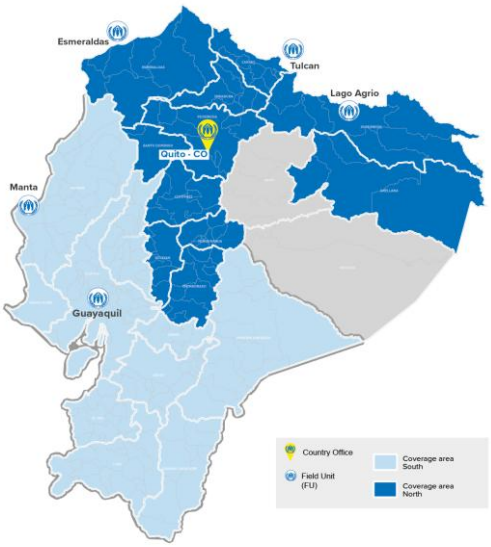
FUNDING (AS OF 30 NOVEMBER 2025)

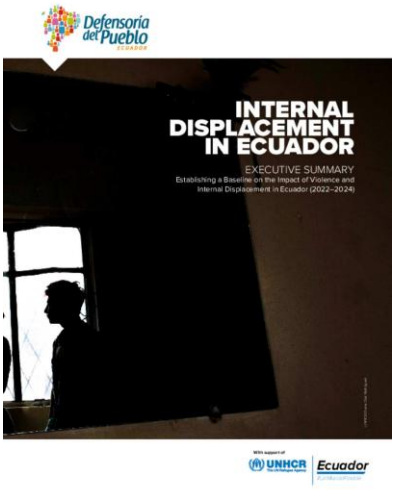
USD 73.3 million

requested for the Ecuador operation



UNHCR PRESENCE





Check out the report led by the Ombudsperson's Office on the impact of internal displacement in Ecuador

Working with Partners

UNHCR has 1 country office and 5 field offices covering north, south, and central Ecuador. In 2025, the UN Refugee Agency worked with 13 partners to support the Ecuadorian Government in the delivery of protection and solutions to refugees and other displaced people, as well as those from the host community in a vulnerable situation. UNHCR also works with other agencies, including as co-lead with IOM of the interagency working group for refugees and migrants (GTRM). Check out the latest GTRM needs assessment for more information.

Main Activities

Jointly with the government, UN agencies, partner organizations, civil society, faith-based and refugee and migrant organizations, and communities, UNHCR undertakes protection and solutions activities, including:

International Protection

- UNHCR facilitates access to the asylum procedure for people in need of international protection through engagement with government and local authorities to strengthen their capacities. By end of December 2025, UNHCR and partners supported 37,782 displaced people with access to free and quality legal services (including orientation and representation).
- UNHCR and partners have supported 4,858 women and girls who have survived violence with specialized care by the end of December 2025.

Community-Based Protection

- UNHCR and partners work to strengthen and support local integration and peaceful coexistence among locals and refugees. Moreover, UNHCR is training refugees and local communities to enhance community communications efforts. By end of December, 7,059 people had been supported through community and 786 with child protection services.
- UNHCR and partners promote protection, peaceful coexistence and inclusion through sports and artistic initiatives. Activities include empowering refugee children and women through sports, training several institutions and government staff on non-discrimination, and supporting children's self-development through creative workshops.

Access to rights: Education and Health

- UNHCR and partners work to reduce barriers to access education for people forced to flee through advocacy and the Aliados x Un Mundo Posible toolbox, based on the Respiramos Inclusión methodology, to tackle discrimination and xenophobia. In this line, UNHCR trained members of the National Council for Equality in Human Mobility which will further train government staff across the country.
- UNHCR advocates for the effective access of refugees to health and programmes, as well as mental health. UNHCR and partners provided 14,512 people with mental health and psychosocial support, by the end of December 2025.

Responding to needs: Assistance, Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR provides support to refugees and other displaced people through assistance to meet the most basic protection needs. By December 2025, UNHCR and partners had delivered support to around 9,658 people.
- Shelters throughout the country continue to receive people in human mobility and to provide assistance. 12,271 people were able to access shelter services, safe, dignified, adequate housing and to community spaces by end of December 2025.

Durable solutions, integration and self-reliance

- UNHCR is engaging with ministries and other authorities to put forward nation-wide initiatives that protect refugees and their host communities through their respective lines of action.
- UNHCR continued promoting the socioeconomic inclusion of people forced to flee in Ecuador, including for entrepreneurs and through job placement, in collaboration with the private sector. To date, 481 people have been provided with technical skills certifications and 1,664 had been linked to economic inclusion opportunities.
- UNHCR launched the third edition of the Inclusive Company Seal in 2025, expanding to over 300 the companies who have an inclusive approach towards refugees.
- To promote integration and peaceful coexistence, UNHCR launched Un Mundo Posible, an initiative that brings together refugees, locals and sports entities in exploring ways to create a world where everyone can thrive. In 2024, UNHCR and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched a joint ToolBox to encourage inclusion and protection in all sectors, which has been piloted with the Ministry of Education and the Pichincha Provincial Government in 2025. See more.
- UNHCR works with international financial institutions to put forward the humanitarian-development nexus in support of refugees and their hosts. This includes conducting joint advocacy. Learn more here.

WITH THANKS TO OUR DONORS

Special thanks to donors who contributed earmarked and flexible funds to UNHCR globally and in Ecuador:
Australia | Belgium | Canada | Denmark | ECHO | Ecuador | Finland | France | Germany | Ireland | Japan | Luxembourg | Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America | UNAIDS
UNHCR is also thankful to private donors around the world, including Liv Golf, and those in Australia, Spain, Japan, Italy and Korea.

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